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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

February 17, 1945

No. 98

STATEMENT ON 1945 FOOD PRODUCTION by WFA ADMINISTRATOR MARVIN JONES. . . . "With each new advance on the fighting front supply lines grow longer and require more food to keep them filled," Administrator Jones said in a recent statement. To accomplish the big task of supplying food needs for the coming year he emphasizes the need for farmers to plant more acres to crops this year; for city and townspeople to help farmers grow and harvest these crops whenever they can; and for everyone to plant as many gardens, and can as much food, as possible. Of gardening and canning specifically he said: "These twin projects in the home will help to relieve the problem of inadequate labor for production and for processing and will help to relieve the burden on wartime transportation." (USDA 272-45).

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AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION. . . . On February 12, the Senate agreed to House amendments and sent to the President a bill to protect the cotton and wheat allotments of farmers who shifted to war crops or entered the Armed Forces and to protect the peanut allotments of farmers who entered the Armed Forces; also to authorize an upward adjustment of peanut acreage on farms where the acreage is below that indicated by the normal history of the farm. February 13--the House Agriculture Committee reported a bill to establish national marketing quotas and acreage allotments for fire-cured and dark air-cured tobacco at the 1943-44 level.

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WHEN TO PLANT RADISHES, LETTUCE, GREENS, ONIONS, AND PEAS. . . . Victory garden advisors of USDA say that these spring vegetables must be planted as soon as the ground is workable for satisfactory results. As a rule too late planting is no good. When to plant may vary from February to May in different parts of the country, but the "gardener's squeeze" is a tried and true method of telling if the soil is ready to work. Take one handful of soil, squeeze it, then open the fingers. If the soil has packed and the imprint of the fingers remains, it is too wet to work. If it crumbles, go ahead.

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"YOUR VICTORY GARDEN COUNTS MORE THAN EVER" is the catch line on a Victory garden poster which should be off the press about the middle of next week. It is 19 X 27 inches in size and in full color. Distribution is being made primarily to post offices, war plants, banks, bowling alleys, department stores, libraries, etc. Southern states will not receive the poster because of its late delivery.

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OPA TO PROVIDE SPECIAL ADVISORY SERVICES TO VETERANS. . . . A broad program for assisting veterans of this war to return to business or employment affected by OPA regulations and for veteran participation with other groups in the work of price control and rationing was announced recently by Price Administrator Bowles. Special advisory service will be

provided veterans in national, regional, and district offices. Each district veterans' advisor will establish a committee to discuss and plan with OPA District directors: (1) Ways of making price and rent control, and rationing, more effective; (2) Ways of meeting special veterans' problems; (3) Increased employment for returned servicemen in the OPA in full cooperation with the Civil Service Commission. (OPA release No. 5301).

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RADIO LISTENING. . . .February 24--On the Country Journal program (CBS) Joseph B. Shepherd of BDI will talk about good quality roughage for dairy cows. February 26--On the Betty Crocker Show (NBC) how food is allocated will be explained by S. R. Smith of OMS and Wallace Kadderly. February 28--Assistant War Food Administrator Grover B. Hill and Mrs. Hill will discuss, on the Betty Crocker Show, "Food in 1945 and How the Crop Corps and Victory Gardeners Can Help."

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SOME RECENT USDA PUBLICATIONS. . . .1944 Report of the Secretary of Agriculture; 1944 Report of the Chief of the Soil Conservation Service; 1944 Report of WFA's Director of the Office of Distribution; six pamphlets by Forest Service entitled: "Guide for (1) Cutting Loblolly Pine of the Eastern Shore, AIS-2; (2) Allegheny Northern Hardwoods, AIS-3; (3) New England Northern Hardwoods, AIS-4; (4) Oak Forests, AIS-5; (5) Red Spruce; AIS-6; and (6) Eastern White Pine, AIS-7.

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1945 GOALS AND SUPPORT PRICES ON VEGETABLES FOR CANNING. . . .Because of increased military requirements, higher goals for processing vegetables and increased price supports over those previously established have been announced by WFA. Price supports per ton for the four major vegetables in the 1945 program are: Green peas, \$83.50; sweet corn, \$18; tomatoes, \$25.25; snap beans, \$85. (See USDA 276-45.)

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8-POINT DAIRY PROGRAM DISPLAY. . . .A 9-panel window display is being prepared on the 1945 dairy program. It consists of an eye-catching central panel and 8 smaller ones--one on each of the 8 points. A limited number of copies are being done by the silk screen process for distribution through the Extension Service. They should be ready about the middle of March.

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SECRETARY WICKARD WILL SPEAK to a group of dairy farmers at Goshen, Indiana, on February 26. On the 27th he will talk about 4-H Club work at an annual Kiwanis Club banquet at Logansport, Indiana, given in honor of 4-H Club boys and girls.

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CONSUMER TIME listeners on February 24 will hear an exclusive report on the food situation in France by Merrill Mueller, well-known NBC War Correspondent. He will describe the notorious black market activities there and the plight of the hungry Parisians, and will tell how Allied food and supplies are coming to the rescue. An added note of interest will be a special story on General Eisenhower's appetite, by Mr. Mueller, who is a personal friend of the General.

On the March 3 Consumer Time show, Bob Burns will forget his bazooka and emphasize the added importance of Victory gardens and canning this year.

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THE TWELFTH IN A COOPERATIVE USDA-OWI SERIES of overseas transcriptions on the organization and function of the Department of Agriculture has been made by the Department's Radio Service. The series has been directed particularly to China and Australia and has attempted to give a word picture of what makes planned agriculture "tick" in the United States. Although the talks are made in English by USDA officials, they are re-broadcast in Chinese to China from San Francisco. They are also made available to the foreign press in the language of the country concerned.

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USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. . . .WFA increases set-aside of utility beef--256; Farm labor report--269; Statement by War Food Administrator Jones--272; Increased goals and grower support prices on vegetables for canning--276; CCC to buy 50,000 bales of cotton--277; WFA amends canned poultry order--282; Details of 1945 egg price support program--285; Larger turkey crop expected this year--289; WFA changes pork set-aside specifications--295; January food deliveries under lend-lease--303.

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OTHER IMPORTANT RELEASES. . . .Miners' price increase for Tennessee phosphate rock--OPA-T-2975; Special gasoline rations for job interviews provided war veterans and civilians--OPA-5288; Present maximum prices for binder twine will continue--OPA-T-2984; Poultry maximum price regulation amended--OPA-T-2977; Price Administrator pays tribute to industry advisory committees--OPA-5306.

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FARM AND HOME HOUR for February 24 will consist of further discussion of the Victory garden radio series for the coming season. The February 24 program will mark the termination of the Farm and Home Hour. On March 3 a new series will begin under the same general format of the Farm and Home Hour but with a new name. Next week's calendar will have more to say about this.

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VICTORY HARVEST, a movie designed to aid in the recruitment of non-farm workers for part- or full-time work on farms as a war emergency, is in the final stages of production. It will probably be completed by March 15. Prints will be made available as usual through the State Extension Services and other depositories.

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